

June 6, 2006

Ron and Mary Ward  
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Dear Sir or Madam,

We recently became aware of the proposed **Business Opportunity Rule R511993** and are very concerned that this rule could significantly alter our ability to earn a living.

For fifteen years we have been apart of Natures Sunshine, who markets their products through direct sales. Without them and their way of marketing we wouldn't have a business. They have taught us that honesty and integrity combined with knowledge and caring are more important than just making money. Because of them many of our customers have been able to supplement their families income without any of us making any claims about "getting rich" or obligating anyone to commit any of their personal finances.

Now in our late fifties, our business is our primary income and not only provides a living for us but for one of our employees as well. In addition, it gives a second income to four others. These rules, as we understand them, could make it impossible for us to continue and could destroy what has taken us so long to build.

While we support the FTC's desire to protect the public, this proposed rule seems not only unnecessary but destructive to an industry that is made up of individuals supplementing or earning their family income without harm to anyone. The seven-day waiting period you propose gives the impression that our just making a person a member with Natures Sunshine involves something more than we are representing. Becoming a member is not buying a franchise and doesn't require any financial commitments. The paperwork suggested for this simple transaction would make it extremely difficult for tiny businesses such as ours to fully comply and we would risk fines and penalties for something that is free and doesn't obligate anyone.

We don't believe that you would want to put tens of thousands of people out of a job that hurts no one. The unintended consequences of this rule can certainly be avoided by addressing whatever problem you see with a different approach.

Thank you for your time in considering our comments.

Ronald K and Mary E Ward